

OCT 15 1900

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE.

REPORT FOR SEPTEMBER, 1900.

LOUISIANA SECTION

OF THE

CLIMATE AND CROP SERVICE

OF THE

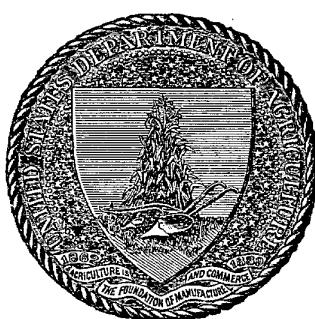
WEATHER BUREAU.

PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY OF THE SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE.

PREPARED UNDER DIRECTION OF
WILLIS L. MOORE,
CHIEF OF WEATHER BUREAU.

BY

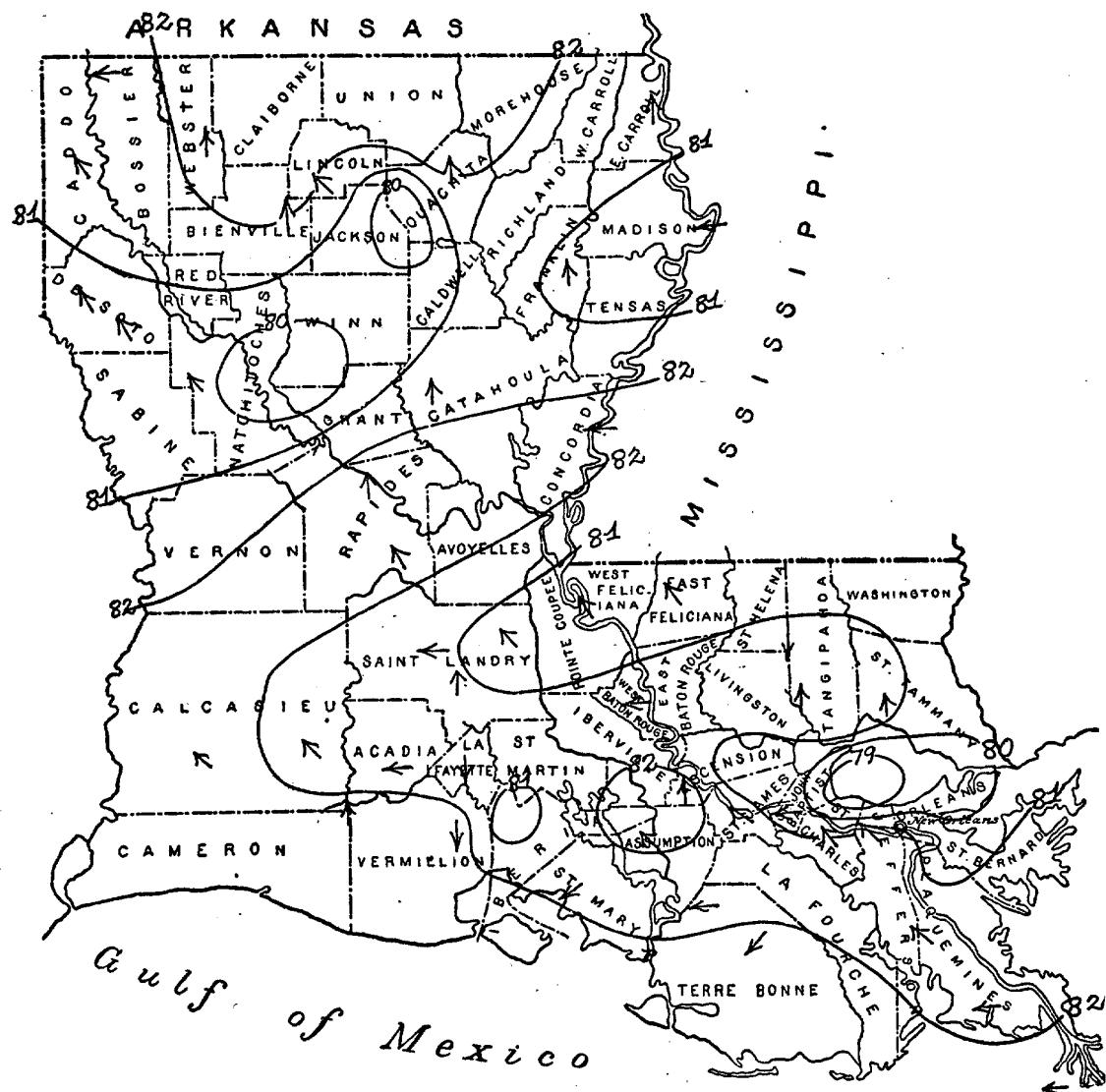
W. T. BLYTHE,
SECTION DIRECTOR.



NEW ORLEANS, LA.:
WEATHER BUREAU OFFICE.

MONTHLY MEAN ISOTHERMS AND PREVAILING WINDS FOR SEPTEMBER, 1900.

(Arrows fly with the wind.)



U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE,

CLIMATE AND CROP SERVICE

OF THE
WEATHER BUREAU.
CENTRAL OFFICE: WASHINGTON, D. C.

LOUISIANA SECTION,
W. T. BLYTHE, Section Director,
NEW ORLEANS, LA.

VOL. V.

NEW ORLEANS, LA.

No. 9.

CROP CONDITIONS BY WEEKS.

WEEK ENDING SEPTEMBER 3, 1900.

The outlook for the cotton crop in this State, as a whole, had improved during the week, but with the exception of only a few localities, the plant continued to shed badly and suffer from the ravages of worms, caterpillars and rust; early cotton was opening rapidly and picking was becoming general, but with prospect of light yields.

The corn crop was turning out very light.

Sugar cane continued in a flourishing condition, with fine prospects for a large tonnage from the plant, and fair yield from stubble.

Rice harvest was progressing favorably and the portion of the crop not yet mature was doing well.

Peas, sweet potatoes, and other minor crops were doing very well.

Range and plantation stock were generally in good condition, but the Weather Bureau correspondent at Montgomery, Grant parish, reported that in his vicinity "about 40 head of horses and mules had died with blind-staggers up to date."

WEEK ENDING SEPTEMBER 10, 1900.

But few complaints were reported as to the yield from the first picking of cotton, which was in general progress, but many were received regarding the present condition of the plant and the prospect of its future production; poison had been freely used in fields infested with caterpillars and other worms, with fairly good results, but young cotton needed rain, the old stalks promised only a very light or no top crop, and rust was still spreading in some localities; some premature opening and drying up and shedding of bolls were also reported.

Up to September 6th, the condition of sugar cane and rice was excellent and the outlook for profitable crops was very bright. Cane was needing rain in places, but was not suffering, and rice was being harvested and threshed with satisfactory yields, or was ripening or growing, according to its age, very rapidly. But it was known that both of these crops had suffered considerably during the passage of the storm on the 7th and 8th from inundation with salt water from the gulf and from high winds. The full extent of the damage done was not yet known, but was believed to have been serious.

The corn crop, then being gathered, was light.

Pea-vine hay-making had begun and the yield was generally below the average.

Sweet potatoes gave promise of a fairly good crop.

Turnips and fall gardens in the central and north portions of the State needed rain badly.

Truck farmers in the "lower coast" region, especially on the left bank of the Mississippi, sustained serious loss from

excessive rains, Gulf tide-water and high winds during the storm of Friday and Saturday.

WEEK ENDING SEPTEMBER 17, 1900.

Reports from rice-growing districts showed that, during the storm of the 7th and 8th, planters on the east bank of the Mississippi river below New Orleans, especially in the vicinity of Pointe-a-la-Hache, had sustained heavy losses, principally from the inundation of rice plantations by salt water from the Gulf, and that rice was further injured by high winds and tides on the 11th and 12th; that ripe rice in Cameron parish had suffered badly, and that in other portions of the rice region the crop had suffered but little or not at all, and was growing nicely, ripening, or being harvested and threshed, according to its age.

It is believed that on the whole the sugar cane crop was benefited by the passage of the recent tropical storm. On some plantations a few of the largest canes were broken and many bent, but generally the shaking by the wind loosened the earth and permitted the moisture from the accompanying rainfall to reach the deepest roots of the plant, and the stalks were now straightening up and the fields looked very promising.

Cotton was not injured to any great extent by the storm, as the very high winds and excessive rains did not extend over the portions of the State where that staple is the principal crop. On the contrary, as before stated, drouthy conditions prevailed over northern Louisiana and rain was needed in many localities in the central parishes. The oldest cotton had stopped growing and was shedding and drying up, but young cotton was still making fruit, and reports indicated that a better feeling existed regarding the final output. Cotton picking was in rapid progress.

Considerable fall plowing had been done and gardens are doing well in the southern portions of the State.

WEEK ENDING SEPTEMBER 24, 1900.

Cotton picking was well advanced in all sections and, as in many localities the plant had stopped growing and fruiting, a large, if not the greater portion of the crop, was soon baled.

Except in the extreme northern parishes, the bulk of the corn crop had been gathered and the crop was generally reported short.

Sugar cane that was slightly damaged during the passage of the tropical storm two weeks ago had straightened up and was in fine condition, and the stubble cane which had heretofore been reported as unpromising as compared with the plant was in fine color and making rapid growth. In its entirety the prospects for a large tonnage and profitable yield from the cane was very promising.

Under the highly favorable weather conditions of the past week in the rice growing district the growth, maturing, harvesting, threshing and marketing of the crop of that cereal made rapid and satisfactory progress.

The condition of and yield from minor crops, viz: cowpeas, fruit, hay, potatoes, vegetables and family gardens, were variously reported, but summarized, seemed to be about or a little below normal.

MISCELLANEOUS PHENOMENA.

Thunderstorms occurred, or thunder was heard and recorded during the month as follows: Abbeville, 1st, 3rd; Alexandria, 2nd, 3rd, 11th, 14th, 21st; Burnside, 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 17th; Emily, 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 7th, 9th, 12th, 22nd, 25th; Franklin, 4th, 9th; Grand Coteau, 3rd; Liberty Hill, 13th, 20th; Melville, 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 5th, 26th; Oxford, 30th; Paincourtville, 12th; Prevost, 3rd, 9th, 10th; Ruston, 2nd, 20th; Sugar Experiment Station, 7th; Wallace, 1st, 2nd, 9th, 12th, 17th, 22nd, 25th; New Orleans, 1st, 2nd, 7th, 9th, 12th; Houma, 12th, 13th, 14th.

EXTRACTS FROM OBSERVERS REMARKS.

Abbeville: September has been an unusually dry, hot month, the excess of sunshine and deficiency of rainfall being very unfavorable for cane, sweet potatoes and gardens, but beneficial to rice and cotton; the great storm of the 8th spent its force before reaching here, although for three days the weather was very blustery and threatening.—C. J. Edwards.

Burnside: We had a wind storm on the night of the 7-8th; at 2 a. m. of the 8th the wind was very high and blew down heavy sugar cane; damage not great, except to make such cane green.—C. S. McFarland.

Clinton: An ideal month to gather all crops, but too dry for all garden and fall crops; cotton about three-fourths open and will be gathered by November 1st; crop will not be larger than last year's.—J. A. White, Jr.

Covington: Not enough rain for gardens, but good for hay, corn and cotton, the latter crop showing good stands all over the parish.—O. V. Richard.

Donaldsonville: High winds on the 8th; no damage in this vicinity.—W. D. Park.

Houma: From the evening of the 12th to the night of the 14th, there was rain, thunder and lightning and wind, but no damage done.—Mrs. K. M. Haggerty.

Jennings: The equinoctial storm of the 8th, with heavy east winds, did some damage to the rice crop as a whole; wind storm on the 14th knocked down considerable rice, doing more harm in some localities than others; the weather on the 16th and 17th was the hottest on record for the past 5 years.—P. M. Kokanour.

Liberty Hill: Corn crop is good; peas, potatoes, sorghum splendid; cotton crop about half gathered and every bale sold as fast as ready.—E. A. Crawford.

Melville: High winds on the 7th, 8th and 9th, prostrated all wires.—C. W. Stone.

Opelousas: High winds and rain on the 8th.—Miss M. G. Curtis.

Plain Dealing: The month has been extremely warm and, up to the 20th, very dry; every growing crop suffered and stock water was getting scarce.—L. T. Sanders.

Rayne: Hard rain and wind storm all day and during the night of the 7th; high northeast and east winds on the 8th and 9th with rain.—H. L. Davis.

White Sulphur Springs: A splendid month for gathering crops; cotton picking will be completed by November 1st; sweet potatoes, ranges and sugar cane, good.—G. W. Bethard.

New Orleans: The effects of the great West Indian hurricane were first felt here on the 7th, when high northeast winds prevailed, reaching a velocity of 39 miles per hour; in the afternoon a little girl was blown off her gallery by the force of the wind and, falling to the ground below, was badly injured. Two small craft were caught by the squall on Lake Ponchartrain and capsized; no lives lost, however. A heavy rain began in the evening; the bayous and canals in and about the city were bank full with water backing in from the Lake; the Shell road leading to West End was under water for several hours and had to be closed to traffic. On the morning of the 8th the wind veered suddenly to the southeast and blew at the rate of 47 miles per hour, accompanied by heavy rain, which lasted till 4:45 a. m. The weather of the 8th, as a whole, was the stormiest ever experienced in this city in September, although the damage done to life and property was comparatively small.—Central Office.

Errata.

August, 1900, report, page 5, Mansfield, highest temperature and date 95, 24th, should read 96, 22nd; Southern University Farm, mean temperature and departure, 73.4, —4.4, should read 77.3, —2.5; page 6. Southern University Farm, mean maximum 81.9, should read 87.6.

SUMMARY OF WEATHER CONDITIONS.

TEMPERATURE.—The mean for September, 1900, determined from the records of all (50) stations from which reports have been received, was 81.3 degrees, which is 7.3 degrees higher than the mean temperature for the same month of 1899, and 4.8 degrees above the normal mean temperature of the State for the month. The highest monthly mean was 83.0 degrees at Alexandria, and the lowest, 78.6 degrees at Southern University Farm. The highest temperature recorded was 104 degrees at Minden on the 17th, and the lowest was 58 degrees at Como on the 17th. The greatest monthly range at any station was 44 degrees at Como, and the least was 24 degrees at New Iberia. The greatest daily range at any station was 36 degrees at Hammond and Plain Dealing.

PRECIPITATION.—The average for the State, determined from the records of all (51) stations from which reports have been received, was 2.80 inches, which is 1.01 inches more than the average for September, 1899, and 1.09 inches below the normal for the month. The greatest amount recorded at any station was 10.18 inches at Port Eads, and the least, 0.20 inch at L'Argent. Excessive rainfall (2.50 inches or more in 24 hours) was reported as follows: Burnside, 2.75 inches; Emilie, 2.88; Plain Dealing, 3.06; Prevost, 2.74; Shell Beach, 2.60, and Venice, 3.97. The average number of days on which .01 of an inch or more rain fell was 5.

WIND.—The prevailing direction was southeast. The total movement at New Orleans was 6,498 miles; at Shreveport, 4,380 miles, and at Vicksburg, Miss., 4,182 miles.

WEATHER.—The average number of clear days was 17, partly cloudy days, 9; cloudy days, 4.

SUNSHINE.—At New Orleans the sunshine for the month, as indicated by the self-registering instrument, was 82 per cent of the possible amount.

COMPARATIVE DATA.

The following tables show the temperature and precipitation in Louisiana during September for the last 11 years:

The State.

Data.	1890	1891	1892	1893	1894	1895	1896	1897	1898	1899	1900
Mean temp.....	75.4	76.4	74.4	76.4	77.4	80.0	77.3	77.2	78.1	74.0	81.3
Highest temp.....	100	100	100	105	98	102	105	102	100	106	104
Lowest temp.....	41	42	40	48	45	37	36	36	51	36	58
Average precipitation.....	4.20	2.66	2.44	4.32	3.58	1.89	3.30	2.17	10.31	1.79	2.80

At New Orleans.

	1890	1891	1892	1893	1894	1895	1896	1897	1898	1899	1900
Mean temp.....	77.6	77.9	76.6	79.8	79.9	81.7	78.9	79.3	79.5	77.7	82.0
Highest temp.....	89	90	89	95	99	94	91	94	92	95	96
Lowest temp.....	56	63	64	66	66	57	56	62	68	57	71
Total precipitation.....	2.85	3.43	6.33	4.38	0.92	1.97	5.26	3.19	13.90	0.35	3.76

At Shreveport.

	1890	1891	1892	1893	1894	1895	1896	1897	1898	1899	1900
Mean temp.....	73.8	75.6	73.4	77.2	76.3	79.2	78.0	78.4	77.0	76.0	81.8
Highest temp.....	92	91	92	98	95	98	99	100	93	91	98
Lowest temp.....	48	54	55	54	54	46	45	47	50	49	64
Total precipitation.....	7.23	4.35	1.56	0.56	0.69	0.72	3.59	1.11	5.42	0.50	2.87

At Vicksburg, Miss.

	1890	1891	1892	1893	1894	1895	1896	1897	1898	1899	1900
Mean temp.....	74.9	76.6	73.6	75.0	75.9	79.6	76.8	78.0	77.2	74.0	80.8
Highest temp.....	91	94	89	92	92	95	96	96	92	95	96
Lowest temp.....	53	53	56	55	51	44	42	48	55	49	62
Total precipitation.....	2.28	0.35	1.48	1.01	2.75	0.14	0.26	0.28	8.93	2.10	2.12

SEPTEMBER, 1900.

CLIMATE AND CROPS: LOUISIANA SECTION.

5

Climatological data for Louisiana, September, 1900.

STATIONS	PARISHES.	Elevation, feet.	Length of record, years.	TEMPERATURE, IN DEGREES FAHRENHEIT.				PRECIPITATION, IN INCHES.				SKY.			OBSERVERS.					
				Mean.	Departure from the normal.	Highest.	Date.	Lowest.	Date.	Greatest daily range.	Total.	Departure from the normal.	Greatest in 24 hours.	Total snowfall (unmelted).	Number rainy days.	Number clear days.	Number partly cloudy days.	Number cloudy days.		
Abbeville	Vermillion	12	82.4	+4.0	96	17	68	28	24	0.75	- 2.63	0.20	0	7	23	4	3	n.	Hon. C. J. Edwards.	
Alexandria	Rapides	77	83.0	+7.1	101	17	66	28	34	2.28	+ 0.19	0.95	0	10	19	4	7	s.	Mrs. M. V. Crawford.	
Amite	Tangipahoa	130	81.2	+4.4	98	17	62	28	32	1.62	- 2.25	0.57	0	5	16	13	1	n.	Miss Lulu M. Wentz.	
Bastrop	Morehouse	130	6																	
Burnside	b. Ascension	1	80.3		97	16	64	28	26	5.42		2.75	0	9					e.	C. S. McFarland.
Cheneyville	Rapides	11	82.2	+6.0	99	17	65	29	30	3.13	+ 0.16	1.60	0	6	6	13	11	se.	S. D. Tinney.	
Clinton	East Feliciana	10	80.3	+3.5	98	17	61	29	34	0.44	- 2.52	0.26	5	5	24	1	24	s.	John A. White, Jr.	
Como	Franklin	3	81.3		102	16	58	17	20	2.10		2.10	0	1				s.	R. M. Ward.	
Covington	a. St. Tammany	8	81.1	+4.4	96	18	66	28	24	2.47	- 2.75	0.73	0	8	21	4	5	s.	O. V. Richard.	
Donaldsonville	Ascension	33	82.9	+5.0	102	17	68	28	28	2.95	- 1.36	1.50	0	4	24	5	1	s.	W. D. Park.	
Emilie (Lions P. O.)	St. John Baptist	11	80.4	+3.7	97	17	68	28	25	4.50	- 1.50	2.88	0	5				e.	Dr. L. D. Chaffey.	
Farmerville	Union	177																	w.	W. P. Chandler.
Franklin	St. Mary's	10	7	81.8	+3.4	96	17	68	28	22	3.15	- 2.87	1.45	0	7	14	10	6	ne.	Miss J. M. Bonney.
Grand Coteau	St. Landry	93	12	81.2	+4.8	97	16	63	29	27	1.50	- 1.05	0.98	0	7	15	12	3	s.	A. E. Diebold, S. J.
Hammond	Tangipahoa	7	82.0	+5.3	101	17	61	28	36	1.44	- 1.56	0.68	0	5	14	11	5	s.	A. J. White.	
Houma	Terrebonne	9	82.2	+3.8	98	18	70	21	23	2.90	- 2.26	2.15	0	5	24	6	0	ne.	Mrs. Kate M. Haggerty.	
Jeanerette	Iberia	20	81.6	+3.4	101	16	65	28	29	2.11	- 2.89	1.01	0	5	9	19	2	se.	Geo. W. Whitworth.	
Jennings	Calcasieu	3	80.9		98	16	66	28	27	1.94		0.78	0	7	19	7	4	se.	P. M. Kokanour.	
Lafayette	Lafayette	22	81.8	+2.6	99	17	63	29	29	1.45	- 2.14	0.67	0	7	23	4	3	n.	J. J. Davidson.	
Lake Charles	d. Calcasieu	22	82.6	+5.9	98	15	69	29	23	1.45	- 1.53	0.80	0	6				sw.	J. A. Owens.	
Lake Providence	East Carroll	107	6	81.4	+4.6	99	16	65	29	26	1.14	- 1.12	0.74	0	3				s.	V. M. Purdy.
L'Argent	Tensas	1	81.8		93	5	64	18	25	0.20		0.20	0	1				se.	W. H. Swan.	
Lawrence	Plaquemines	8	81.6	+2.7	100	17	68	28	26	3.56	- 2.09	1.12	0	9				se.	A. G. Grimshaw.	
Liberty Hill	Bienville	12	82.1	+5.5	98	15	61	18	31	3.10	+ 0.63	1.98	0	4	21	3	6	s.	Dr. E. A. Crawford.	
Mansfield	De Soto	4	80.6		98	17	62	29	30	2.07		0.92	0	6				se.	W. J. Rachal.	
Melville	St. Landry	45	12	80.9	+3.7	97	17	63	29	28	3.30	+ 0.70	2.00	0	5	24	1	5	se.	C. W. Stone.
Minden	Webster	12	82.3	+5.3	104	17	63	18	37	2.13	- 0.17	1.42	0	3				s.	W. S. Hunter.	
Monroe	Ouachita	82	12	82.0	+5.0	102	16	66	18	31	0.92	- 0.31	0.76	0	5	24	1	5	s.	J. C. Berry.
Montgomery	Grant	3	79.0		92	1	65	18	23	3.64		2.35	0	3				e.	R. E. Jackson.	
Natchez, Miss.	Opelousas	9	82.8	+5.8	100	17	67	29	26	1.80	- 0.28	1.00	0	4				e.	Chas Steitenroth.	
New Iberia	Iberia	15	11	80.8	+3.4	92	5	68	29	28	2.30	- 1.07	1.05	0	5				se.	Mrs. John A. Gebert.
New Orleans	Orleans	8	27	82.0	+3.4	96	16	71	14	19	3.76	- 0.98	1.82	0	9	24	4	2	se.	CENTRAL OFFICE.
North La. Expt' Sta.	Ouachita	180	8	78.9	+4.2	98	16	59	12	35	3.90	+ 1.34	2.25	0	5	20	8	2	se.	Maurice Bird.
Oak Ridge	Morehouse	5																	n.	J. R. Brown.
Opelousas	St. Landry	83	7	81.0	+3.8	98	17	63	29	30	2.46	- 0.87	0.98	0	6	21	5	4	e.	Miss Mattye G. Curtis.
Oxford	De Soto	258	6	80.4	+4.9	98	16	62	29	34	0.75	- 1.18	0.65	0	3	11	16	3	se.	J. T. Steele.
Paincourtville	Assumption	10	81.6	+4.3	99	16	65	29	27	2.70	- 2.28	1.67	0	4	19	9	2	se.	Hon. Joseph E. LeBlanc.	
Plain Dealing	Bossier	7	81.5	+5.5	102	16	62	18	36	3.60	+ 1.01	3.06	0	4	19	8	3	e.	L. T. Sanders.	
Port Eads	Plaquemines	2	11	82.6	+2.5	95	17	70	13	15	10.13	+ 4.18	2.12	0	12	3	20	7	e.	H. H. Lawes.
Prevost	k. St. Tammany	3	80.4		96	11	69	13	24	2.74		0	4						James Prevost.	
Rayne	Acadia	8	80.3	+2.9	101	17	62	29	33	1.15	- 3.10	0.53	0	5	5	1	24	e.	H. L. Davis.	
Robeline	Natchitoches	147	4	80.2		98	16	63	19	27	2.20		0.80	0	4				se.	A. T. Allen.
Ruston	Lincoln	4	81.8		100	16	67	18	27	3.55		1.08	0	5	17	12	1	se.	Dr. M. A. Laurence.	
Schriever	Terrebonne	7	81.5	+3.7	100	18	62	28	32	3.26	- 1.24	1.55	0	6	23	3	2	e.	Chas. V. Moore.	
Shell Beach	a. Vermillion	12	82.2	+4.6	97	20	70	9	22	3.10	- 0.58	2.60	0	2	6	18	6	s.	M. Buhler.	
Shreveport	Caddo	180	29	81.8	+5.0	98	16	64	18	26	2.87	- 0.68	2.45	0	4	11	9	10	se.	U. S. Weather Bureau.
So. University Farm	Jefferson	5	78.6	+1.6	97	17	64	3	27	4.98	+ 0.15	2.08	0	6				se.	S. E. McClendon.	
State Expt' Station	E. Baton Rouge	35	10	81.6	+4.3	98	16	65	28	26	3.82	+ 0.70	1.19	0	10	19	8	3	e.	Prof. H. A. Morgan.
Sugar Expt' Station	Orleans	18	10	81.4	+3.9	95	16	61	27	26	3.85	- 1.95	2.25	0	7	19	8	3	nw.	Prof. W. C. Stubbs.
Watertown	Calcasieu	7	82.2	+6.1	95	16	70	22	20	0.54	- 1.78	0.54	0	1	24	6	0	s.	G. W. Richardson.	
Venice	Plaquemines	4	81.0		98	17	66	29	24	7.05		3.97	0	8	24	4	2	e.	Dr. Charles Collins Buck.	
Vicksburg, Miss.	Andrea	30	80.8	+5.0	96	16	62	18	27	1.12	- 1.25	1.94	0	3	18	9	3	e.	U. S. Weather Bureau.	
Wallace	St. John Baptist	15	8	81.6	+4.0	100	17	64	28	28	3.58	- 2.81	1.42	0	7	20	3	se.	Miss M. Henriette Tassin.	
White Sulphur Spgs.*	Catahoula	3	86.7		102	16	72	7	25	2.25	- 1.95	1.10	0	4	24	6	0	s.	Geo. W. Bethard.	

Precipitation, in inches, in New Orleans and Vicinity for September, 1900.
Recorded by U. S. Weather Bureau.
Recorded by Drainage Commission of New Orleans.

Custom House, 111 feet above ground.	Sugar Expt. Station (Audubon Park), 2 ft. above ground.	Southern University Farm, 2 ft. above ground.	Carrollton ave., intersection Miss. Valley R. R., 3 ft. above ground.	Andubon Park Sugar Station, 4 ft. above ground.	Jefferson Market, Berlin and Mag., 15 ft. above ground.	City Hall, 80 feet above ground.	Algiers, Pacific ave., near So. P. Shops, 22 feet above ground.	London Draining Sta., London ave. and Gentilly road, 10 ft. abv. ground.
3.76	3.85	4.88	2.33	3.84	3.32	3.49	4.80	4.01

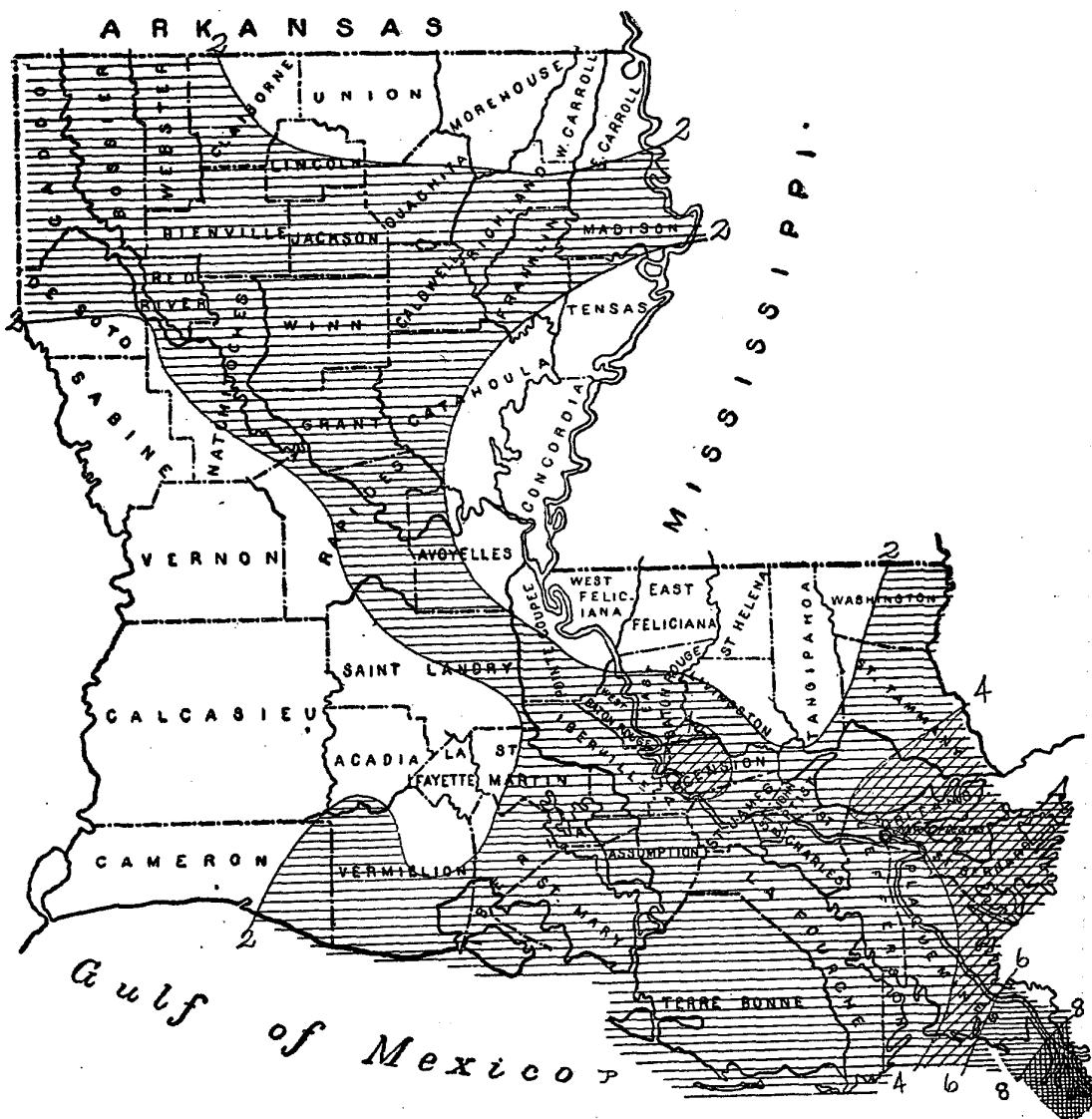
CLIMATE AND CROPS: LOUISIANA SECTION

SEPTEMBER, 1900

Maximum and minimum temperatures for Louisiana, September, 1900.

* equals 100. *₁ equals 101. *₂ equals 102. *₃ equals 103. *₄ equals 104.

TOTAL MONTHLY PRECIPITATION FOR SEPTEMBER, 1900.



Daily precipitation, in inches and hundredths, for the month of September, 1900.

The letter of the alphabet following name of station indicates number of days missing.

T.—Indicates rainfall less than .01 of an inch.